AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1) (Currently amended) A labeling and/or marking machine comprising:

_____a feed conveyor ~~(4)~~ rotatable about a vertical axis ~~(5)~~ and equipped peripherally with a plurality of pedestals ~~(8)~~ supporting single containers ~~(2)~~;

_____drive means ~~(9, 37)~~ associated respectively with the conveyor ~~(4)~~, by which the containers ~~(2)~~ are directed along a predetermined conveying path ~~(17)~~, and with the single pedestals ~~(8)~~ in such a way that each pedestal can be driven in rotation about a respective vertical axis ~~(38)~~;

_____applicator and/or marker means ~~(26, 27)~~ occupying positions along the predetermined conveying path ~~(17)~~; and

_____means ~~(30)~~ by which to detect and control an~~the~~ angular position of the containers ~~(2), characterized in that,~~ the means by which to detect and control comprising a plurality of charge coupled device ("CCD") image sensors mounted rigidly to the rotating feed conveyor, each associated with a relative pedestal supporting a container and each ~~detection and control means (30) comprise at least one CCD image sensor (31, 39)~~ capable of detecting and recognizing predetermined outlines ~~(32)~~ presented by the containers ~~(2)~~.

2) (Currently amended) A machine as in claim 1, wherein the CCD image sensors ~~(31, 39)~~ comprise a memory ~~(34)~~ by ~~means of~~ which to store at least a~~the~~ shape of one reference sample outline, and respective sensing and control means ~~(35)~~ serving to measure a~~the~~ degree of similarity between the reference sample outline and the detected outline ~~(32)~~.

3) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 2, comprising a master control unit ~~(36)~~ connected on an~~the~~ input side to the CCD image sensor ~~(31, 39)~~,

and on anthe output side to the drive means (9, 37) associated respectively with the conveyor (4) and with each of the pedestals (8).

4) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 3, comprising a CCD image sensor (39) occupying a fixed position relative to the rotating feed conveyor (4).

5) (Cancelled).

6) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 15, wherein the rotating conveyor (4) is set in motion intermittently bythrough the agency of respective drive means (9).

7) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 15, wherein the rotating conveyor (4) is set in motion continuously bythrough the agency of respective drive means (9).

8) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 3, wherein the master control unit (36) receives a signal from the CCD image sensor (31, 39) indicating anthe angular position of the predetermined outline (32) presented by a respective container (2) relative to the conveyor (4), and responds by sending a control signal to the drive means (37) associated with the pedestal (8) supporting a container (2), such as will cause the pedestal (8) to rotate through a predetermined angle and into a position coinciding with a predetermined position programmed by way of the labeling and/or marking means (26, 27).

9) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 8, wherein the master control unit (36) is designed to respond, once the pedestal (8) has reached the predetermined position programmed by way of the labeling and/or marking means (26, 27), by deactivating the drive means (37) associated with the pedestal (8).

10) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 9, wherein the applicator means ~~(26, 27)~~ positioned along the predetermined conveying path ~~(17)~~ comprise at least one device such as will affix a label to a predetermined area ~~(28)~~ of a~~the~~ lateral surface ~~(29)~~ presented by each container ~~(2)~~.

11) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 9, wherein the marker means ~~(27)~~ positioned along the predetermined conveying path ~~(17)~~ comprise at least one device such as will apply at least one of lettering, and/~~or~~ an image and/or a logo or graphic symbol to a predetermined area ~~(28)~~ of the lateral surface ~~(29)~~ presented by each container ~~(2)~~.

12) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 1, comprising a master control unit ~~(36)~~ connected on an~~the~~ input side to the CCD image sensor ~~(31, 39)~~, and on an~~the~~ output side to the drive means ~~(9, 37)~~ associated respectively with the conveyor ~~(4)~~ and with each of the pedestals ~~(8)~~.

13) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 12, comprising a CCD image sensor ~~(39)~~ occupying a fixed position relative to the rotating feed conveyor ~~(4)~~.

14) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 13, wherein the rotating conveyor ~~(4)~~ is set in motion intermittently by ~~through the agency of~~ respective drive means ~~(9)~~.

15) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 12, comprising a plurality of CCD image sensors ~~(31)~~ mounted rigidly to the rotating feed conveyor ~~(4)~~, each associated with a relative pedestal ~~(8)~~ supporting a container ~~(2)~~.

16) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 15, wherein the rotating conveyor ~~(4)~~ is set in motion intermittently bythrough ~~the agency of~~ respective drive means ~~(9)~~.

17) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 4, wherein the rotating conveyor ~~(4)~~ is set in motion intermittently bythrough ~~the agency of~~ respective drive means ~~(9)~~.

18) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 1, wherein the applicator means ~~(26, 27)~~ positioned along the predetermined conveying path ~~(17)~~ comprise at least one device such as will affix a label to a predetermined area ~~(28)~~ of a~~the~~ lateral surface ~~(29)~~ presented by each container ~~(2)~~.

19) (Currently Amended) A machine as in claim 1, wherein the marker means ~~(27)~~ positioned along the predetermined conveying path ~~(17)~~ comprise at least one device such as will apply lettering and/or an image and/or a logo or graphic symbol to a predetermined area ~~(28)~~ of a~~the~~ lateral surface ~~(29)~~ presented by each container ~~(2)~~.